

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 26-30 are pending in the application, and claims 1-16 and 26-30 stand rejected. The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-16 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 are amended in accordance with the suggestions of the Examiner. Claims 26-30 are cancelled. The specification has been amended with respect to references to "CR₄". No new matter has been introduced in the amendments to the claims or the amendments to the specification.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner noted that the specification discloses that one or more of the methylene groups in the -(CH₂)_m- group can be replaced by a "CR₄".

The specification has been amended to remove the substitution of the methylene group by CR₄. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 and 26-30 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner asserted that claims 1, 9, and 26 are further indefinite in the phrase "...one or more of the methylene groups is optionally replaced by ...a CR₄ ..." because it is not clear how a methylene group, which is divalent, can be replaced with a group that is not divalent. Further, the Examiner asserted that claim 26 is further indefinite in the phrase "Z is a linking group comprising a bond, a -(CR₅=CR₆)_n- group, a -CR₇=N- group." for the reason that the phrase was allegedly missing a conjunction such as "and" or "or".

Claims 26-30 have been cancelled. Further, independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended to remove the substitution of the methylene group by CR₄. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 9, and claims 2-8 and 10-16 as depending from claims 1 and 9, respectively, are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 26-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. 7,014,968 to Tokarski et al. (the "968 patent).

Claims 26-30 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the above rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 26-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 26, 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,416,915 to Kikuchi (the '915 patent).

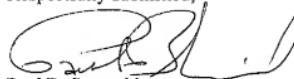
Claims 26, 28 and 29 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the above rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 26, 28, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, and specifically the amendments to the claims suggested by the Examiner, *it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.* Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul B. Savereide
Registration No. 36,914

Customer No. 24113
Patterson, Thuente, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.
4800 IDS Center
80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100
Telephone: (612) 252-1550